

BAER assessments will be wrapping up in the region early next week.

The Taylor and Klondike team had their close-out with Forest leadership yesterday. Working with the WO BAER Coordinator, we decided to split the request into the two fires within Regional approval authority, even though we completed the assessment with one team. The Taylor Creek request is for \$218,892 and the Klondike Fire request at \$473,702. The bulk of the funding for both fires is road and trail treatments. There are additional funds requested for EDRR invasive plants treatments, and human life and safety treatments including hazard warning signs and hazard tree treatments at developed rec sites. We have an engineer from Colorado headed out for three weeks to assist the Forest with implementation of the road work. The authorization letter is in Mercury.

We should be seeing the requests for Crescent Mountain and McLeod on the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF soon. The teams are pulling together the final reports with request around \$250,000 for Crescent and \$170,000 for McLeod. Most of the requests are for road and trail drainage improvements, invasive species EDRR and hazard warning signs. The Forest BAER coordinator is working on finalizing the requests to send in.

The request for the Maple fire on the Olympic should be in the RO by next Tuesday. It is a small request around \$60,000 for road drainage, seeding for prevention of invasive species spread, warning signs and road closures. They are still working on some minor details in response to my review of the request.

The Terwilliger team is planning on closing-out with the Forest next Tuesday. The team anticipates a fairly small funding request focused on safety, property and resource concerns around Terwilliger Hot Springs, as well as treatments along major roads, invasive plants EDRR, and hazard notifications.

The Natchez authorization letter is still working its way through the signature process. I am hoping to usher these final letters through the system quickly next week as I will be leaving next Friday for a three week rafting trip on the Grand Canyon. Joy Archuleta, RO Water Quality and Water Rights, and Rob Tanner, Des-Och BAER Coordinator, will be covering for me while I am away.

Thanks!

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- Wendell Berry, *The Unsettling of America*, 1977

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